

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 05884 102340Z  
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 H-01 SNM-02 SCS-03 SCA-01  
DHA-02 L-03 SSO-00 /038 W  
-----081167 102350Z /65  
O R 102145Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 5884

FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FROM DERIAN AND  
FOR CARACAS TO CODEL WOLFF FROM DERIAN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SNAR, SHUM, CASC, BL  
SUBJECT: DERIAN VISIT TO U.S. PRISONERS IN BOLIVIA

1. WHILE IN BOLIVIA HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATOR DERIAN  
VISITED ALL 44 OF THE U.S. PRISONERS UNDER DETENTION.  
FOLLOWING ARE SOME COMMENTS ON GENERAL SITUATION AND  
QUESTIONS ABOUT ROLE OF U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
AS IT AFFECTS PRESENT SITUATION.

2. GREATEST PROBLEM FACED BY THE U.S. PRISONERS IS  
UNCERTAINTY OF THEIR STATUS. THERE ARE SOME PRISONERS  
WHO HAVE BEEN SENTENCED AND HAVE BEEN IN JAIL LONGER  
THAN THEIR SENTENCE AND HAVE NO IDEA OF WHEN THEY WILL  
BE RELEASED, OTHERS HAVE BEEN IN JAIL OVER ONE YEAR OR  
MORE WITHOUT SENTENCING, AND ONE WAS ACQUITTED AND  
IMMEDIATELY REARRESTED. HIS CASE IS NOW LOST IN THE TERRIBLE  
BUREAUCRATIC AND CORRUPTION RIDDEN MIRE WHICH SEEMS TO TYPIFY  
THE BOLIVIA JUDICIAL SYSTEM. MRS. DERIAN STRESSED GRAVE USG  
CONCERN FOR LACK OF DUE PROCESS IN BOLIVIA AND URGED CLEMENCY  
IN TALKS WITH BOLIVIAN OFFICIALS WHICH WAS REPORTED IN SEPARATE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 05884 102340Z

TELEGRAMS. APART FROM UNCERTAINTY FACING THESE YOUNG PRISONERS,  
IS GHASTLY, SUBPRIMITIVE CROWDED AND UNSANITARY CONDITION OF  
JAILS, LACK OF ADEQUATE FOOD AND MEDICINE, FEAR OF MISTREATMENT  
AT THE HANDS OF GUARDS AND DISTANCE FROM HOME AND FAMILY.

FOR CARACAS: MESSAGE FROM DERIAN FOR CODEL WOLFF:

3. ALL OF THESE PRISONERS ARE IN JAIL CHARGED WITH NARCOTICS OFFENSES. MANY OF THEIR CASES WERE DEVELOPED WITH ASSISTANCE OF U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS PRESENT IN BOLIVIA. ARRESTS COVER PERIOD OF MID APRIL 1974 TO PRESENT. TOTAL AMOUNT OF COCAINE CHARGED TO BE IN THEIR POSSESSION UPON ARREST COMES TO ABOUT 64 KILOS, AN INSIGNIFICANT FIGURE COMPARED TO YEARLY TRAFFIC OF SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND TONS TO U.S. MOST OF THE PRISONERS ARE CHARGED WITH HAVING ONE KILO OR LESS IN THEIR POSSESSION. DEA AGENT IN BOLIVIA ADMITTED THAT TRAFFICKING FROM BOLIVIA IS INCREASING, THAT SOME 95 PERCENT OF THIS TRAFFICKING IS PROBABLY DONE BY AMERICANS AND THAT OF THE U.S. PRISONERS IN BOLIVIA HE WOULD CLASSIFY PERHAPS FOUR AS BEING MAJOR TRAFFICKERS. THIS DATA RAISES SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT EFFICIENCY OF U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM AND MAKES ONE WONDER IF U.S. PRISONERS IN BOLIVIA ARE PART OF SOME MACABRE NUMBERS GAME AIMED AT JUSTIFYING THE ONGOING EFFORT. MANY OF THE PRISONERS CHARGED COMPLICITY OF DEA AGENTS IN ARRESTS, BEATINGS, INTERROGATIONS, SIGNINGS OF FALSE STATEMENTS AND/OR INFLUENCING LONGER SENTENCES THAN WOULD BE THE NORM. WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT TO EVALUATE THESE CHARGES THEY CERTAINLY SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED. FOR THESE REASONS, I BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL THAT YOU PERSONALLY TALK TO AS MANY OF THESE PRISONERS AS POSSIBLE.  
CHAPLIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, VISITS, PRISONERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BUENOS05884  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770288-0694  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770878/aaaacocw.tel  
**Line Count:** 85  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 18d4305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1651593  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DERIAN VISIT TO U.S. PRISONERS IN BOLIVIA  
**TAGS:** SNAR, SHUM, CASC, BL, (DERIAN, PATRICIA M)  
**To:** STATE CARACAS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/18d4305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009